

Amendment and Response

Applicants: Drusel et al.

Serial No.: 09/865,336

Confirmation No.: 3557

Filed: 25 May 2001

For: SINGULATION METHODS AND SUBSTRATES FOR USE WITH SAME

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Remarks

The Final Office Action mailed 24 September 2002 has been received and reviewed as well as the Advisory Action date 17 March 2003. The above Amendments and the following Remarks are provided, in combination with a Request for Continued Examination, in response thereto.

Claim 69 has been amended. Claims 79-86 have been added. Therefore, the pending claims include claims 22-62 and 69-86. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the below remarks.

The 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 69-74 and 76-78 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Takubo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,448,451). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and the arguments presented by the Examiner in the Advisory Action dated 17 March 2003. However, to move the case to issuance, Applicant has amended claim 69 to clarify the language of the claim.

The Examiner has indicated in the Advisory Action that nothing in the claim language indicates that the packaged individual circuit cannot have a "small overlap" with the opening (see Advisory Action, page 4) even though the language of the claim states that "each packaged individual circuit is formed in the substrate material adjacent the at least one opening."

Although Applicant does not admit that the lack of overlap "is crucial" to every embodiment of the invention as described in the pending application, such non-overlap is evident in various embodiments shown in the Figures.

Claim 69 has been amended to include language in a manner suggested by the Examiner. As such, claim 69 is not anticipated by Takubo et al. For example, Takubo et al. does not describe "one or more circuits formed in one or more of the circuit forming regions of the substrate material resulting in a packaged individual circuit in each of the one or more circuit forming regions, wherein each packaged individual circuit is formed in the substrate material

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adjacent to and non-overlapping with the at least one opening.

Further, in view of the dependency of claims 70-78 on claim 69, such claims are also not anticipated by Takubo et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 75 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Claim 75 has been rewritten as claim 79 and claims 80-86, which are similar to claims dependent on claim 69, have been added. As such, it is believed that claims 79-86 are in condition for allowance.

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Summary

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for
Micron Technology, Inc.

By
Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.
P.O. Box 581415
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415 **FAX RECEIVED**
Phone: (612) 305-1220
Facsimile: (612) 305-1228
Customer Number 26813

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By: *Mark J. Gebhardt*
Mark J. Gebhardt
Reg. No. 35,518
Direct Dial (612)305-1216

Date

24 March 2003**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 24th day of March, 2003, at 5:15pm (Central Time).

By: *Sue E. Cole*
Name: SUE E. COLE